

**To:** Myers, Craig[Myers.Craig@epa.gov]; Powell, Greg[Powell.Greg@epa.gov]  
**From:** Dhieux, Joyel  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 6:50:40 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: ditch data

Not sure how you want to handle. Let's have a conference call. That would be most expedient.

Joyel R. Dhieux  
Federal On-Scene Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Ph: 303-312-6647  
Cell: 720-441-9961

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV" <[thomas.skibitski@state.nm.us](mailto:thomas.skibitski@state.nm.us)>  
**Date:** August 13, 2015 at 12:30:01 PM MDT  
**To:** 'Drew Petersen' <[drew.petersen@state.co.us](mailto:drew.petersen@state.co.us)>, "mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us" <[mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us)>, "Dhieux, Joyel" <[Dhieux.Joyel@epa.gov](mailto:Dhieux.Joyel@epa.gov)>, "knowltonbk@co.laplata.co.us" <[knowltonbk@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:knowltonbk@co.laplata.co.us)>  
**Cc:** "chris.sorensen@state.co.us" <[chris.sorensen@state.co.us](mailto:chris.sorensen@state.co.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: ditch data

Thank you, Drew.

TS

**From:** Drew Petersen [<mailto:drew.petersen@state.co.us>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 12:28 PM  
**To:** [mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us); 'Dhieux, Joyel'; [knowltonbk@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:knowltonbk@co.laplata.co.us)  
**Cc:** Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV; [chris.sorensen@state.co.us](mailto:chris.sorensen@state.co.us)  
**Subject:** FW: ditch data

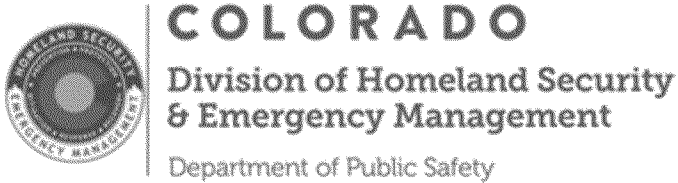
Hi Thomas,

I forwarded this message to the team who helped implement the ditch flushing.

Thanks,

Drew

Drew Petersen | West Region Field Manager



970-633-0201 Mobile

56 Blackstock Drive Unit B, Crested Butte, Colorado 81224

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Receive COEmergency Twitter messages by text:

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**From:** Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV [<mailto:thomas.skibitski@state.nm.us>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 11:31  
**To:** 'chris.sorensen@state.co.us' <[chris.sorensen@state.co.us](mailto:chris.sorensen@state.co.us)>; Drew Petersen  
([drew.petersen@state.co.us](mailto:drew.petersen@state.co.us)) <[drew.petersen@state.co.us](mailto:drew.petersen@state.co.us)>  
**Cc:** McQuillan, Dennis, NMENV <[dennis.mcquillan@state.nm.us](mailto:dennis.mcquillan@state.nm.us)>  
**Subject:** ditch data

Chris, Drew,

The State of New Mexico needs to open direct dialogue with the State of Colorado regarding actions occurring in your state. We are very frustrated with communication between the EPA regions 8 and 6. Please respond to the following questions:

1. What stream/ditch sediment sampling results are available? Please provide as much information as possible:
  - a. Location
  - b. Test methods/analytes
  - c. Results
2. What is Region 8/Colorado's plan for re-opening irrigation water use?
  - a. Are you currently allowing irrigation (from ditches or wells)?
  - b. What water quality and soil criteria applies to informing the decision?
  - c. If you are not allowing irrigation, why not?
  - d. What is your basis for not allowing irrigation?
3. We understand some flushing of ditches is occurring.
  - a. What is your process?
  - b. What water quality and soil criteria are you applying to inform the flushing decision and process?
4. Please send us all the raw data (sediment and water chemistry) you have. Excel spreadsheets are preferred but we will be happy to accept it in any form. We are happy to reciprocate with all our analytical results.
5. Do you know if the Animas is a gaining stream along its reach to the state line? Does it vary seasonally?
6. We understand that Cement Creek appears to have a relatively stable sediment base that the treated water is flowing over. Do you have any data about changes to water chemistry as it leaves the treatment ponds and flows over the sediments in Cement Creek?
7. Please understand that any information you can provide as soon as you can is appreciated. Please do not refrain from responding because you are not able to answer all my questions.

We need to make the following decisions:

1. When to allow private well uses along the river.

2. When to allow use of water from the river.
3. When to allow resumption of irrigation from ditches.
4. When to allow recreation or full use of rivers.
5. Have you used qualitative or quantitative results to inform your decisions?

Please respond as quickly as possible as we want to make decisions today and R8 and Colorado's reasoning will inform our decisions.

Thanks,

TS

Thomas Skibitski

Emergency Response Operations Chief

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